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(56) Documents Cited

GB 0904785 A US 4659083 A US 4209172 A

(58) Field of Search

UK CL (Edition O) A6D D23C

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ONLINE:- WPI

(54) Combined putter ball alignment system

(57) A combined putter ball alignment system comprises a ball pattern having a triangular format (E. Fig. 1) which covers a quarter of the ball circumference, the apex of which can be aligned towards the target by sight from behind the ball and which interfaces with a convergent triangular design on the superior surface of the putter (A. Fig. 1) enabling correct alignment of putter onto ball. Along the central axis of the triangular putter design (A. Fig. 1) are two deep parallel thin channels (C. Fig. 1 + 2) the bases of which are painted (D. Fig. 2). The depth and width of these channels enables the painted bases to be seen only when the eyes are perpendicularly above the channels thus ensuring constant correct head position.

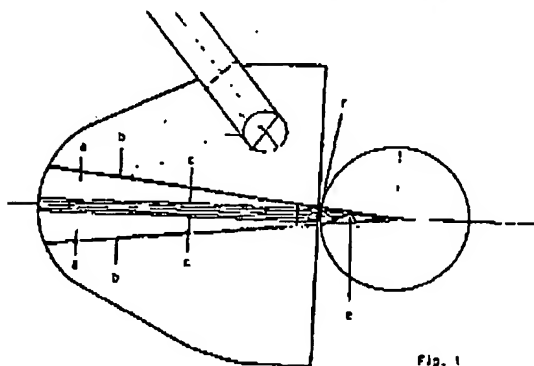


Fig. 1

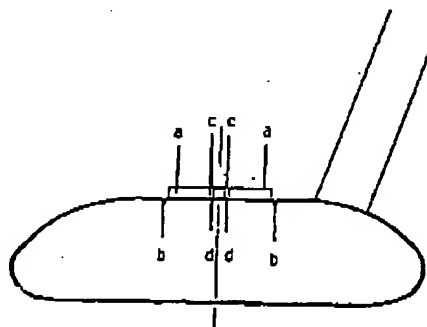


Fig. 2

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The claims were filed later than the filing date within the period prescribed by Rule 25(1) of the Patents Rules 1995

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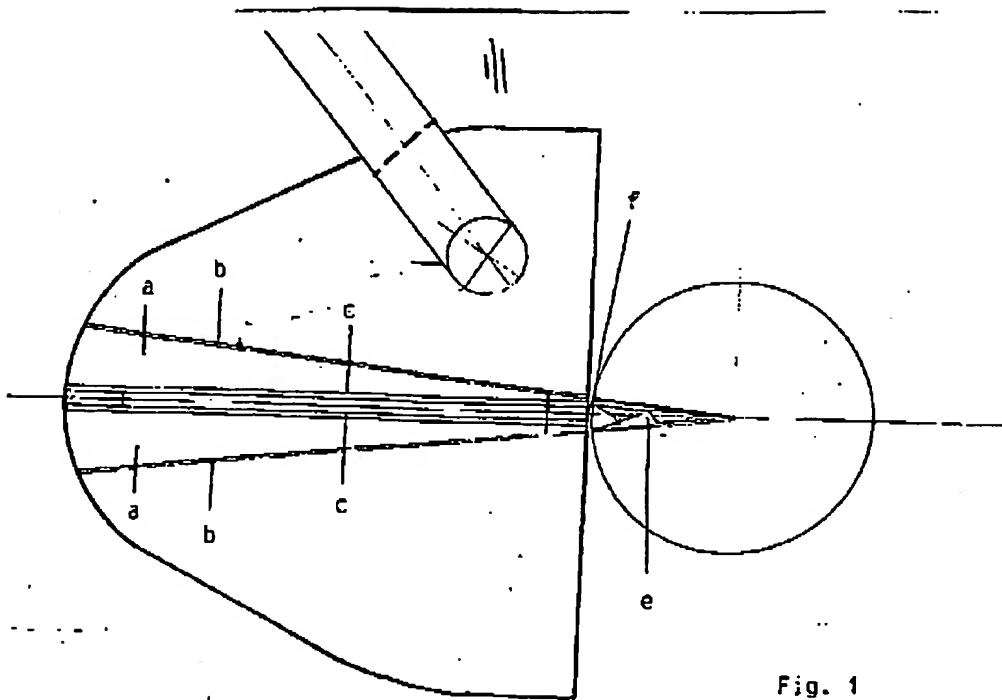


Fig. 1

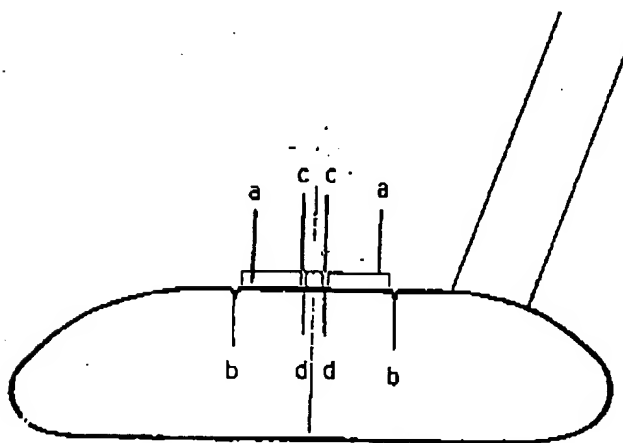


Fig. 2

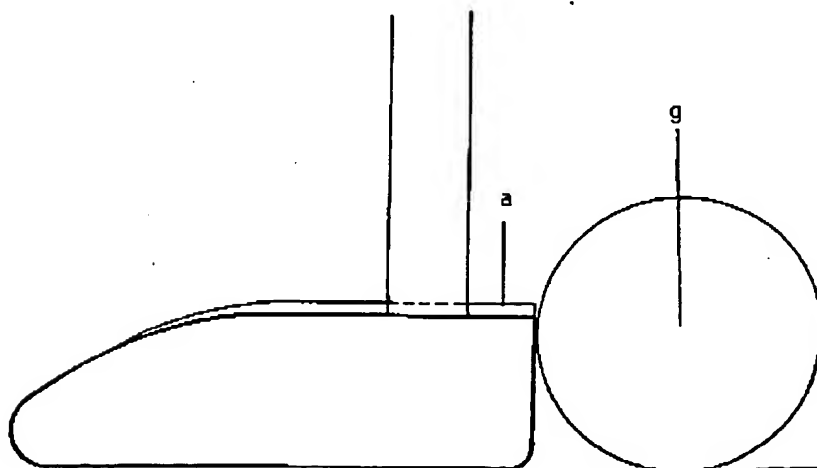


Fig. 3

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Improvements in or relating to Golf-Putter-Ball Alignment

Expert putting of a golfball involves two essential elements - horizontal alignment of the ball to the hole or that part of the green one is aiming at and vertical alignment of eyes over the ball. To date, although not prohibited by the rules of golf, markings, as described below, to aid the above, have not been incorporated on balls, putters or other clubs.

The object of this invention is to help achieve correct horizontal and vertical alignment between eyes, club, ball and hole by incorporating certain markings and indentations, on and in, club and ball as follows:-

Fig. 1 is a view looking down on a typical golf putter. Coloured convergent ribs (a) act as an optical aid by forcing eyesight to correctly align between club, ball and hole. They can be emphasised by shallow, white or coloured grooves (b) on their perimeter. In addition, one or more relatively thin to depth parallel grooves (c) coloured white or other contrasting colour at their base only (d) and separated by black or contrasting colour, are situated between the convergent ribs (a). The resultant fine line or lines are only visible from directly above, thus ensuring automatic vertical alignment. If the lines are not visible, sighting must be inside or outside the correct line between putter and hole. Fig. 2 is a section and Fig. 3, a side elevation of a typical putter.

In addition - each golfball (g) is painted with arrowed, convergent triangles (e), the base of any one of which matches up (f) with the narrow end of the putter ribs (a). Thus, with the ball having been correctly aligned towards the hole and the putter-head correctly interfaced with the ball.

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This invention can be applied to any other golfclub as well as the putter. The former operates at various angles to the vertical so the grooves (c) have to be incorporated in the clubhead at an angle corresponding to that which suits the individual player and the type of club.

When one can see the fine lines (d) the correct clubhead position has been achieved.

The player has, for the first time, a valuable artificial aid to good putting.

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CLAIMS

1. A combined putter ball pattern alignment system comprising a triangular circumferential ball marking designed to interface with a triangular patten on the superior surface of the putter convergent onto the ball marking, in addition to deep narrow parallel lines centred between the convergent putter markings.
2. The narrow central lines as claimed in Claim 1 having their bases painted enabling, by virtue of their depth, these base paints to be seen only be perpendicular vision.

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Claims searched: 1-2

Examiner: David Whitfield
Date of search: 19 April 1996

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK CI (Ed.O): A6D D23C
Int CI (Ed.6): A63B 53/04
Other: ONLINE:- WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	GB 0904785 (BELLRINGER) (WHOLE DOCUMENT)	1
"	US 4659083 (SZCZEPANSKI) (" ")	"
"	US 4209172 (YAMAMOTO) (" ")	"

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

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